

Fair, cold (about freezing) tonight; fair and cold tomorrow; brisk winds.

The Washington Times

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NUMBER 3597.

WASHINGTON, SATURDAY EVENING, APRIL 16, 1904.

PRICE ONE CENT.

BLIZZARD BITES EMPIRE STATE

Heavy Snow Falls in Lower Lake Region and Storm Sweeps New England With Increasing Fury.

TROLLEY LINES BLOCKED; RAILROAD TRAFFIC HINDERED

Fiercest Storm in Forty Years in the Adirondacks---Sleighs Out in New Hampshire. Schenectady a City of Slush.

Heavy snow has fallen in the lower lake region through New York State and New England. In many places the storm reached the proportions of a blizzard, snow falling to the depth of eleven inches. Cold weather prevails, trolley lines in the cities are tied up and railroad traffic blocked. There is good sleighing in New Hampshire. The storm is declared to be the heaviest April snow in thirty-eight years.

BLIZZARD COVERED WIDE AREA.

LOCKPORT, N. Y., April 16.—The worst blizzard of the winter struck here last night, and a total snowfall of eleven inches is recorded. The snow drifted in many places, and all traffic was paralyzed for some time this morning. The trolley line was at a standstill for several hours.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., April 16.—Eight inches of snow on the level covers Rochester today. Starting in late yesterday afternoon the snow fell in greater quantities than at any time during the winter, and greatly hampered traffic on the streets and railroads. Trains have been coming in hours late, but the weather has moderated greatly today, and the snow is rapidly disappearing under the effect of the sun.

Eight Inches on Level.

BALLSTON, N. Y., April 16.—The heaviest April snowstorm in many years has prevailed here since last night. Eight inches cover the ground this morning, with indications of more. A heavy wind accompanied the snow. There is good sleighing.

SCHENECTADY, N. Y., April 16.—Snow began falling here last evening.

The snow melted as fast as it descended in the early evening, but during the night the weather grew considerably colder, and this morning the ground was covered to the depth of eight inches. Traffic on the trolley lines was interrupted, but pedestrians had an uncomfortable time of it, as the snow is very wet and is rapidly turning into slush.

Blizzard in Adirondacks.

GLENS FALLS, N. Y., April 16.—A blizzard is sweeping the Adirondack region. Ten inches of snow fell in Glens Falls last night, and over a foot of fresh snow covers the Adirondacks. The end is not in sight, as the storm continues and a heavy wind is blowing. Trolley and steam traffic is delayed, and country roads are blocked. Many farmers have done their early planting, and their loss will be great. The snow will add to the river flow and the freshet danger is greater than ever.

NASHUA, N. H., April 16.—Snow fell all night and is still coming down. Three inches are on the ground, and for the first time in thirty-six years sleighs are in use as late as April 16.

Sefton Extends Time For Selecting Judges

Action Taken at Request of Fred Kelley and M. B. Scanlon—Hours For Voting.

The time for filing the lists of judges by the election commission of the local Democratic party has been extended until Wednesday next. This action was taken this morning by Chairman Edwin Sefton, at the request of Secretary J. Fred Kelley, of the central committee, and M. B. Scanlon, a member of the committee, who held a conference with him on the subject.

Kelley and Scanlon were appointed at the Norris meeting at the Raleigh Hotel to see what could be done toward changing the rules under which the primaries will be held.

The Norris faction desired the voting to take place between the hours of 3 and 8 o'clock. The committee had decided upon from 5 to 10 o'clock, and the Slater-Hearst party approved those hours. At the meeting this morning Messrs. Kelley and Scanlon presented a

resolution adopted at the Norris gathering calling upon the commission to take place between the hours of 3 and 8 o'clock. Chairman Sefton, however, refused to take the desired action.

"We were very careful in drawing up the rules," he said, "and as they stand you get two and a half hours of stand you get two and a half hours of stand you get two and a half hours of stand."

On the other hand, the Slater-Hearst people have two hours and a half for their workmen to vote at night. I am sorry I cannot grant the request, but it seems the rules are perfectly fair as they are.

Secretary Kelley and Mr. Scanlon then brought up the matter of making the ballots. They called attention to what appeared to them to be an error that would be made by the ballots to be thrown out. Chairman Sefton showed them that they were mistaken, but he decided to let the committee prepare the whole committee, and for this purpose he called a meeting of the committee for Wednesday afternoon.

JAPANESE MINISTER ILL; SUFFERING WITH COLD

Mr. Takahira, the Japanese minister, is confined to his home at 1319 N. Street, with an attack of illness. He was taken sick yesterday morning and remained in bed both yesterday and today, a physician being summoned to attend him. The minister's illness is thought to be due to a severe cold which, combined with the fact that he has been on a great strain lately, has made him particularly susceptible to the attack.

Ever since the outbreak of the war Minister Takahira has been an extremely busy man, and the strain has been one to severely test his constitution. The attending physician does not anticipate a serious illness.

WEATHER REPORT.

Unseasonably cold weather prevails in all districts, except the South Atlantic and East Gulf States, and in southern Texas. The weather tonight and tomorrow will be fair, except along the South Atlantic Coast, where showers are probable this afternoon or tonight. It will be decidedly colder tonight from southern Pennsylvania southward to northern Florida and westward, including the East Gulf States and lower Mississippi Valley. Tomorrow will be fair and cold in all districts.

TEMPERATURE.

9 a. m. 45
12 noon 45
1 p. m. 45
2 p. m. 45

THE SUN.

Sun sets today 6:27 p. m.
Sun rises tomorrow 5:22 a. m.

TIDE TABLE.

High tide today 8:36 p. m.
High tide tomorrow 8:52 a. m., 9:16 p. m.
Low tide tomorrow 2:58 a. m., 3:32 p. m.

MORRELL PLANS TO REORGANIZE DISTRICT GUARD BRANCHES OF SERVICE

Bill Introduced in House to Effect Necessary Changes.

Enlistment for Three Years, and Honorable Discharge for Cause.

Representative Morrell of Pennsylvania, the newly appointed chairman of the House Committee on the Militia, who was designated to succeed Dick upon the latter's elevation to the Senate, has introduced a bill to reorganize the District militia.

The measure provides that after July 1, 1904, the District National Guard shall be constituted as follows: That the staff of the brigade commander (who shall be the brigadier general commanding the militia) shall consist of one assistant adjutant general with the rank of lieutenant colonel, one inspector, one judge advocate, one quartermaster, one commissary, one ordnance officer, and one engineer, each with the rank of major; one surgeon with the rank of lieutenant colonel, two aides-de-camp, each with the rank of captain.

It provides that the officer of the army assigned by the President to act as adjutant general shall receive pay and allowances two grades above the pay and allowances held by him on the active list, but such pay and allowances shall not exceed the pay and allowances of a lieutenant colonel on the active list.

Organization of Guard.

The guard in time of peace will consist of not more than thirty-two companies of infantry, four companies of coast artillery, one troop of cavalry, one battery of field artillery, one signal corps company, one hospital corps, and three bands. Regiments of infantry will consist of three battalions, and to each regiment there will be one colonel, one lieutenant colonel, one adjutant (captain), one quartermaster (captain), one surgeon (major), two assistant surgeons (captains), one assistant surgeon (first lieutenant), one chaplain (captain), one major, one hospital corps sergeant, one commissary sergeant, two color sergeants, also a band, to consist of one chief musician, one principal musician, one drum major, four sergeants, eight corporals, one cook, and twelve privates; one sergeant (first class), one hospital corps sergeant, three sergeants of the hospital corps, six privates (first class) of the hospital corps, three privates of the hospital corps.

Battalions of Infantry.

The battalions of infantry will, whenever practicable, consist of four companies; and to each battalion there will be one major, one battalion adjutant (first lieutenant), one battalion quartermaster and commissary (second lieutenant), and one battalion sergeant-major.

To each company of infantry there will be one captain, one first lieutenant, one second lieutenant, one first sergeant, one quartermaster sergeant, four sergeants, eight corporals, two cooks, two musicians, one artificer, and eighty-seven privates.

A company of coast artillery will consist of one captain, one first lieutenant, one second lieutenant, one first sergeant, one quartermaster sergeant, eight sergeants, twelve corporals, two cooks, two musicians, and eighty-one privates.

It is provided, however, that when there are more than one company of artillery have been mustered in, the following officers and non-commissioned officers of coast artillery, are authorized: one major, one first lieutenant, one assistant lieutenant, one sergeant-major, one second lieutenant, one sergeant, one quartermaster sergeant, six sergeants, eight corporals, one saddler, one wagoner, two trumpeters, and seventy-six privates.

The Field Artillery.

The battery of field artillery will consist of one captain, two first lieutenants, one second lieutenant, one first sergeant, one quartermaster sergeant, one stable sergeant, six sergeants, twelve corporals, two cooks, four artificers, two musicians, and ninety-one privates.

The signal corps company will consist of one captain, one first lieutenant, one second lieutenant, five first-class sergeants, ten sergeants, ten corporals, thirty first-class privates, and twenty second-class privates.

The hospital corps will consist of one ambulance company, one field hospital, and of the sergeants (first class), sergeants, corporals, and privates of the hospital corps who are members of regiments, separate battalions, and squadrons.

Term of Enlistment.

The term of enlistment is fixed at three years, and the conditions of honorable discharge are made as follows: "No enlisted man shall be honorably discharged before the expiration of his term of service, except by order of the commanding general, and for the following reasons: Upon his own application, for good and sufficient reason, approved by the commanding officer of his company, and by superior commanders; upon removal from the service on account of disability, established by certificate of a medical officer; to accept promotion by order of the commanding general; or to accept the service demands such discharge."

It is also true that at no time has it been possible to obtain four votes in the Board of Education in favor of asking for the testimony given under oath, and undertaking an investigation. The statement of Mr. Stocking, at the Mount Pleasant meeting, is absolutely true, that there has been no investigation of the case in hand by the Board of Education since its organization. The assertion repeatedly made that at

GEN. BOWEN LATE WOULD ENLARGE SCHOOL SCANDAL

Shows How Record of the Investigation Was Secreted.

SOME SERIOUS CHARGES

Believes Inquiry Was a "Whitewashing" of the Guilty Parties.

To the Editor of The Washington Times:

The Times is fully justified in reminding the president of the Board of Education that he has grave responsibilities to the public, and that it is now his duty to let it be known whether there is any foundation, and if any, what foundation, for the serious reports in general circulation touching school conditions. The Times in its issue of last evening does right, and daily strengthens itself with our citizens by holding all public servants to the strictest account. Failure on my part to respond could only be interpreted to mean either a willingness to conceal demoralizing influences which have long existed in the schools, or to condone them. I cannot afford to occupy either attitude before the public.

I have not consulted any member of the Board of Education in regard to the call of The Times for information, and so speak for myself alone. I have no authority to speak for the Board.

Mr. Stocking said in his remarks, that but for the "Star" influence the case still in hand would have been quietly settled two years ago, for upon Commissioner Macfarland's advice the member of the Board of Education involved in the scandal, resigned, and they had agreed as to certain changes of verbiage. While it was in hand to make a fair copy this influence advised emphatically, as the sworn testimony shows, that it be not again submitted, and this "emphatic" advice was followed.

Settling Conditions.

The seriousness of the conditions ascertained by Commissioner Macfarland at the outset is clearly shown by his own words, as they appear in the official record, presenting the reason for advising the member of the Board of Education to resign.

"It was that it might save the public school system, and, secondly, the Board of Education, and the Commissioner at the head of the school system, and for that matter, the entire District Government."

The resignation being withdrawn under the advice indicated, Commissioner Macfarland, as directed, took the case before the full Board of Education, and the resignation of Mr. Macfarland's own request for a resignation being voted "no," and the investigation went on, occupying eight months, after the death of Mr. Ross.

Under the courtesy prevailing between the Commissioner and the Board of Education, the Commissioner charged with any department of the District government, preference in its management, to the Board of Education, being in charge of schools, and under the investigation, at its close it was declared that the members of the Board who were under the exclusive jurisdiction of the Commissioner had resigned, and that the case under investigation was closed.

Board of Education.

The unsettled element of the case came within the exclusive jurisdiction of the Board of Education. Upon this point Commissioner Macfarland, in the progress of the hearing informed the president of the Board of Education that "the only function the Commissioners had was respecting reports reflecting upon the conduct of the Board of Education, and that part of the case under investigation was settled in its final shape with a right result."

At the close of the hearing, the president of the Board, acting in strict conformity with the action of the Board, made a written official request for a copy of the record, of which several copies had been made, and stated, stating the reason of the request to be that it might be called to the attention of the Board of Education.

This request was declined, on the ground that the full Board had not asked for the record of this was only a device to avoid sending it, since the member of the Board involved still remained and voted at Board meetings on all questions relating to the case, when it was impossible to obtain the four votes necessary to request a copy of the record under the decision that the full Board must ask, instead of proceeding according to the method laid down to the president of the Board by Mr. Macfarland himself.

All Requests Refused.

Several applications from the president of the Board were refused, although made in accordance with Mr. Macfarland's first instructions, and, as a consequence, the Board of Education has not yet obtained or seen the record. As it had no power to administer oaths, in case it proceeded with an investigation, it could only have accepted the unsworn statements of such as were given, and we are just as well aware of their contents as they are read as afterward."

The Speaker said he had counted 221 present, and had counted accurately, but it was nevertheless within the power of any member to insist upon a quorum at any time.

LOCAL MEASURES OF MUCH INTEREST PASSE BY HOUSE

Madison-Samson-Sampson Street Changed to Church.

ASSESSMENT OF DAMAGES

Commission to Pass Upon Union Station Cases Instead of the Courts.

Under the agreement reached last Monday the House today took up the consideration of District business, and fourteen measures favorably acted upon by the District Committee were passed. The first bill called up by Chairman Babcock was that to incorporate the American Cross of Honor. The measure makes eligible to membership in the organization those who have received medals from the Government for life saving. The bill was passed without debate.

Mr. Powers of Massachusetts, explained the provisions of the bill to incorporate the Washington Sanitary Housing Company, and the measure was passed without division.

Name of Street Changed.

The Senate bill to change the name of Madison-Samson-Sampson Street, running from Fourteenth to Eighteenth Streets, between P and Q Streets northwest, was next considered. The committee amendment designates the thoroughfare as Church Street, that name having been decided upon to settle the controversy because of the fact that two large churches (Foundry and St. Thomas Episcopal) are located in the street.

Mr. Maddox of Georgia asked why the change was desired. Mr. Babcock made explanation and the bill was passed. The Senate bill to amend the code so as to permit the members of the Society of Friends to solemnize marriages was passed without debate, as was also the bill to conform title to lots 2, 3, 4, and 5, in square 529.

Payment of Damages.

Mr. Babcock then called up the bill to provide payment of damages on account of the changes in grades of streets caused by the erection of the new Union Station. Mr. Babcock said the object of the measure was to make the settlement of damages without recourse to the courts by the appointment of a commission to adjudicate the claims. The bill was passed.

The bill to provide for the laying of service sewer and water mains through subdivided subdivisions provided the opposition of Representative Burkett, a member of the subcommittee on appropriation, which prepared the District appropriation bill.

The bill provides that in such cases assessments against the land shall be collected until the land is platted or the sewers tapped.

Mr. Burkett said it was not good policy to extend sewers through unimproved county property. He further urged that the bill be taken away from Congress and conferred it upon the Commissioners. On a viva voce vote the bill was passed.

Mr. Babcock asked for a division, which resulted as follows: Ayes, 16; noes, 23. Mr. Maddox made the point of no quorum. The Speaker counted 21 present, and declared the bill passed.

Relief for Script Holders.

The bill for the relief of certain holders of tax script was passed without opposition.

Mr. Babcock asked for an explanation of the bill to provide for the sale of Chesapeake and Ohio canal bonds owned by the District.

Mr. Babcock said these bonds were an asset of the District. Until recently they had been regarded as worthless, but as there had been proposals for their purchase the Commissioners had asked for authority to sell them. The measure, he said, stipulates that they shall be sold at public auction with the right reserved to reject any or all bids. The bill was then passed.

Inattention to Business.

Much confusion prevailed in the House which gave little or no attention to the bills. Mr. Maddox again called attention to this fact, and said it was entirely apparent to everyone that there was at least 100 less than a quorum present. "Yet," he added, "these bills were being rammed through, and no one except members of the committee knows what they contain."

"There is so much noise that no one can read, and we are just as well aware of their contents as they are read as afterward."

The Speaker said he had counted 221 present, and had counted accurately, but it was nevertheless within the power of any member to insist upon a quorum at any time.

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RUSSIANS LOSE TWO WARSHIPS?

Rumor Says That Sebastopol and Another Vessel Have Been Blown Up at Port Arthur.

CZAR'S TROOPS FACE JAPANESE ON BANK OF THE YALU RIVER

Renewed Military Activity in China Causes Fear That a Breach of Neutrality Is Planned.

LONDON, April 16.—A dispatch from St. Petersburg just received here reports that the battleship Sebastopol and another Russian vessel have been blown up at Port Arthur.

The report is officially denied in the Russian capital, it being current there that Admiral Alexieff has raised his flag on the Sebastopol. ST. PETERSBURG, April 16.—A telegram from Port Arthur states that three Japanese warships were damaged in the bombardment at that place yesterday.

ACTIVITY IN CHINA.

The Pekin correspondent of the "Gazette" says that the renewed military activity in China is causing a fear that a breach of neutrality is planned.

The Chinese troops are being hastily armed and sent to the frontier of Manchuria, and all the officers at headquarters have been put aboard trains bound for Manchuria. Continuing, the correspondent says that Gen. Ma Yun Kun has been appointed commander-in-chief of the northern army, which has arrived at the Manchurian frontier.

The Chungchuses are growing braver and are constantly attacking the Russian troops in Manchuria, causing considerable losses.

FACE TO FACE.

TOKYO, April 16.—A report has reached here that 20,000 Russian troops are massing on the right bank of the Yalu River and that the Japanese force on the left bank of the river is being increased.

Kamimura May Strike Blow at Vladivostok

LONDON, April 16.—A dispatch to the "Express" from Nagasaki says that the best possible information has been received that Admiral Kamimura, who, with a strong squadron, has been watching Vladivostok ever since the recent attack on that place, reports that he hopes soon to give a good account of his squadron, if not to report the capture of the four Russian cruisers that are now locked up in the inner harbor.

A dispatch to the "Standard" from St. Petersburg says it is reported there that the Russian Vladivostok squadron has made a sortie from that port.

ADMIRAL SKRYDLOFF CALLED "BULLDOG OF RUSSIAN NAVY"

ST. PETERSBURG, April 16.—If there was one man in Russia eminently fitted to succeed Makaroff, he was Admiral Skrydloff, known as "the bulldog of the Russian navy." He started Thursday night from Sebastopol for St. Petersburg, and will leave with the least possible delay for Port Arthur. Skrydloff's appointment, which is gazetted, means fighting.

When the new commander of the Port Arthur fleet was to be chosen two months ago the question arose as to whether Skrydloff or Makaroff should be selected. The former, to his great disappointment, was not chosen, and in an interview he said he envied Makaroff.

An order of 200,000 rubles has been given to the Krivos factory for light artillery.

JAPANESE TROOPS LANDING CLOSE TO THE TOWN OF WIJU

SEOUL, via Shanghai, April 16.—The Japanese landing operations have been transferred from Chinampo to Chulsan, the latter place being only forty miles from Wiju, where the Japanese army of the north is concentrating.

Definite information concerning the number of troops landed there is unobtainable, but from the transports arriving there must be at least two divisions. The Chemulpo and Chinampo landing scenes are here repeated, and on the same scale.

It is evident the Japanese intend concentrating a large force at Wiju before attempting to cross the Yalu. Advice from Fusan state that the Japanese army is actively engaged in the construction of the great military activity, the operation of the southern terminus of the rapidly developing Korean railway system, which is forming an important portion of the Japanese military scheme.

It is also reported that Masumoto is the scene of great military activity, the Japanese constructing strong fortifications and protecting the excellent harbor there opening into the Korean Straits. The importance of this cannot be overestimated, as the straits form the connecting naval link in the sea communication between Port Arthur and Vladivostok.

The "London Times" boat remains off the Manchurian coast and sends its news by wireless telegraph to Wei-Hai-Wei, a British port. As the vessel is on the high seas, international complications of an interesting nature will arise if Russia attempts to seize the vessel.

Russia's order is believed by many army and navy officials to be one which must be approved by all nations. Gen. A. W. Greely, chief of the Signal Corps, who attended the wireless telegraph conference at Berlin last year, is of the opinion that Russia has taken the proper position in assuming control of wireless communication, and believes it will be supported by other world powers.

The De Forrest Wireless Telegraph Company has protested to the State Department against the Russian order.

RUSSIAN ORDER MAY YET DRAG AMERICA INTO THE CONFLICT